



Council Of State Employees



Summer 2005

Message from the Governor

You work hard every day on behalf of North Dakota's citizens, providing quality services and ensuring that the state operates efficiently. One way to show appreciation for your dedication and efforts is to compensate you for a job well done. That is why we supported the recommendation of the State Employee Compensation Committee to allow a pay increase of four percent in each year of the 2005-2007 biennium

and worked with the Legislature to ensure the approval of this important legislation.

In addition to a four percent increase each year in the current biennium, the Legislature approved to retain 100 percent coverage of health insurance for all state employees and to provide equity funding for agencies, including the Highway Patrol and the Department of Corrections and Rehabilitation.



Governor John Hoeven

We are proud of the work that state employees do for the people of North Dakota and we're pleased to be able to compensate you for your faithful service. Thank you for helping to make North Dakota a great place to live, work and conduct business.

Summer Safety on the Road

Summer brings an expected increase in travel on North Dakota Highways. The North Dakota Highway Patrol would like to remind highway users to be responsible when driving. This summer has been a difficult period as far as fatalities that have occurred on our highways.

When making travel plans, make responsible decisions. It is important to remember that we have to be aware of not only our own driving, but also the driving behavior of oth-

ers. Driving defensively is critical. Never drive after consuming alcoholic beverages, and if you drink, use a designated driver. Always obey traffic laws, and avoid distractions such as cell phone use while driving.

The use of safety restraints is the easiest method of reducing the severity of injuries, and deaths, in traffic crashes. Injuries and death not only affect



us through personal tragedy, but also through increased medical and auto insurance costs.

Have an enjoyable summer and remember, make safe driving your responsible choice.

North Dakota Highway Patrol

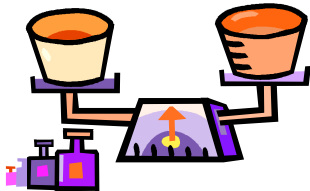


Gov. John Hoeven is encouraging state employees to submit nominations for the Governor's Award for Excellence in Public Service to recognize the outstanding dedication and work performance of their fellow state government employees. The awards will be presented at a special ceremony and luncheon during State Employee Recognition Week in September.

Governor Calls for Nominations for Excellence in Public Service Awards

Nominations will be accepted from the legislative, judicial and executive branches of state government. Nominees must be employed a minimum of half time with one full year of employment and more than one employee can be nominated from an agency or department. This year, employees can be nominated in six categories: (1) Executive/Administration; (2) Professional; (3) Technical/Paraprofessional; (4) Office Support; (5) Trade/Crafts, and (6) Services.

For more information about the award and to submit your nominations online or print a nomination form, visit the Council of State Employees Web site at www.state.nd.us/cose. You can also send your nominations to the Office of the Governor, attention Jody Link, 600 East Boulevard Avenue, Bismarck, ND 58505. The deadline for all nominations is August 12. If you have any questions, you can contact Jody Link at (701) 328-2203.



What is Weights and Measures?

Decisions, decisions. We make them everyday as consumers since it pays to be a smart consumer considering the constant rise in prices for everything we purchase. Should we buy hamburger in a 5 lb lot at a reduced price or just buy it by the pound? Should we buy apples priced by the bag or priced by the pound? Almost everything we buy is sold either by weight or volume.

For example, when purchasing gasoline did you ever wonder if you were getting exactly the amount of gasoline into your tank that the dispenser shows. Accurate delivery and correct measurement of the gasoline you purchase is a must given the rising costs of gasoline. Would you want to pay for five gallons but really only receive four? Most people would say no. Would the operator of the station like to have you only

pay for four gallons when you put five gallons into your tank? The answer is also probably no since that operator wouldn't stay in business very long.

Therefore both the consumer and operator depend upon the gasoline dispenser to accurately deliver the amount of fuel that the dispenser states. On every dispenser within the state either the State Weights

What is Weights and Measures? (cont.)



Pictures: (Left) Weights and Measures inspector Leo Praus testing a gasoline dispenser for accuracy. (Right) Inspector Praus placing a certification seal upon a gasoline dispenser that indicates that the dispenser is operating correctly.

and Measures certification seal or a Registered Service Company certification seal is required by law to be displayed on every commercial weighing or measuring device. That seal tells the consumer that the device has been checked for proper design and installation and has been tested for accuracy.

Inspectors from the Testing and Safety Division, Weights and Measures section of the Public Service Commission work behind the scenes to protect both the buyer and the seller by acting as an enforcement body that ensures fairness within the market place by using National Institute of Standards and Technology (NIST) recognized standards

and equipment to test and inspect all jurisdictional commercial weighing or measuring devices (such as grain and livestock scales, grocery store produce and meat scales, motor fuel dispensers, LPG and fuel delivery trucks, etc.). Their mission statement states: *The Testing & Safety Division promotes fairness in the marketplace and enhanced public safety by enforcing state and federal laws governing gas pipeline safety and the installation and operation of commercial weighing and measuring devices. Tests and inspections are provided in an efficient, fair, and courteous manner taking into consideration an operator's cost to maintain compliance. Education programs are offered on a*

regular basis to promote understanding of and compliance with applicable laws and rules.

So the next time you purchase gasoline and notice a green certification seal on the dispenser, or the next time your produce is weighed at the super market check-out counter, you can be sure that you are receiving the correct amount of product weighed or measured by that commercial device. You can thank state employees like Al Moch (Director), Kevin Hanson (Assistant Director) and the W&M field staff of Leo Praus, Wayne Grangaard, J. P. Robbins, Phyllis Richter, and Bill Eide for being "On the Job for North Dakota".

Dakota Trivia

COSE Clothing

available online at

<http://www.state.nd.us/cose/cloths.htm>

1. In what year did the State Capitol Building burn down?
2. What does ND have the most of (per capita)?
3. What is the State Dance?
4. What does the word Dakota mean in Sioux Indian?

Answers are on page 6 at the bottom.

Fish Award Nominees

Second quarter nominees:

Lowell Bontjes, DHS
 Debbie Johnson, DHS
 Cindy Nolz, DHS
 Cherie Kraft, DHS
 Tina Freidt, DHS
 Nadine Philp, DHS
 Linda Maslowski, DHS
 Leila Brucker, DHS
 Jade Cork, DHS
 Tori Vetter, DHS
 Juli Johnson, DHS
 Beverly Hausauer, DHS
 Maggie Anderson, DHS
 Robin Addington, DHS
 Mike Bossert, DHS
 Tom Pelletier, DHS
 Shelly Paul, DHS
 Heather Steffel, DHS

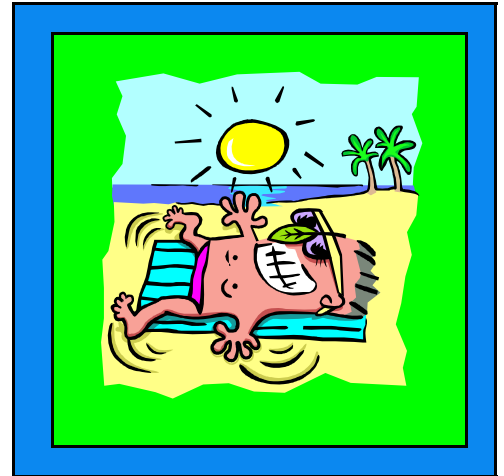


Ron Qualley, DHS
 Paul Froeschle, NDSU
 Irene Askelson, NDSU
 Bo Severson, NDSU
 Brenda Jacobson, NDSU
 Mary Sivertson, NDSU
 Jean Jones, NDSU
 Robert Jenkins, Job Service
 Diane Wadholm, NDSU
 Vickie Grossnickle, NDSU
 Jill Spacek, NDSU

**Congratulations to the 2005 2nd quarter winner, Jade Cork.
 She will receive a COSE t-shirt.**

Tips for having a Safe Summer

- ☺ Protect your skin. Limit your time when in direct sunlight between 10 am and 4 pm.
- ☺ Wear sunscreen containing a high SPF, such as 15.
- ☺ Drink plenty of water. This will help keep your body cool.
- ☺ Watch children around any water environment.
- ☺ Avoid drinks with alcohol or caffeine. They will make the heat's effects on your body worsen.
- ☺ Watch for signs of heat stroke: Skin is hot but not sweating, red & dry. Changes in consciousness, rapid and weak pulse, and rapid and shallow breathing. Call 911. Move person to a cooler place. Cool the body by wrapping wet blankets or sheets around them and fan them. Ice packs should be placed at the victim's wrists, ankles, armpits and neck to cool the large blood vessels. Keep the person lying down.
- ☺ Wear eye protection: Sunglasses protect your eyes against damage that can occur from UV rays.
- ☺ Wear foot protection: Many times people's feet can get burned from the sand or can get cut while walking on the sand



**Please visit the COSE
website for State**

Employee Discounts

throughout the State.

**Remember to check back often be-
cause these discounts are updated
regularly.**

www.state.nd.us/cose

Message from President Senne

Attitude is more important than the past, than education, than money, than circumstances, than what other people think, say or do. It is more important than appearance, giftedness or skill. It will make or break a company, a church, a home. The remarkable thing

is, we have a choice every day regarding the attitude we will embrace for that day. We cannot change our past. We cannot change the fact that people will act in a certain way. We cannot change the inevitable. The only thing we can do is play

on the one string we have, and that is our attitude.

Have a great Summer!
Dave Senne
COSE President



The American Cancer Society Fundraiser - Relay for Life was much more than a fundraiser. It was a tribute to everyone that has been touched by cancer. The event began

with a survivors walk, then a walk of survivors and caregivers, and next was the parade of teams. Over 40 Bismarck/Mandan state employees participated in the 2004 Relay in Bismarck on June 12th and 13th. The Cancer Relay helped raise money for research, education and support. The state employee teams raised more than \$6,000!!

Relay for Life

The State teams involved and amounts raised were:

WATER DEPT.	325.00
HUMAN SERV.	1668.00
LAND DEPT.	290.00
STATE COSE	1233.00
BANK OF ND	1080.00
FACILITY MAN.	2850.00
TOTAL	7446.00

Bismarck --Mandan Relay for Life Event raised more than \$101,000.

**THE BEST THING ABOUT THE FUTURE IS
THAT IT COMES ONLY ONE DAY AT A TIME
– UNKNOWN**

Trivia Answers:

1. 1930 2. Millionaires 3. Square Dance 4. friend



Fish Awards

Friendly
Initiative
Smile
Helpful



Developed by the State COSE Board of Directors, the Fish Award:

- ❖ Symbolizes excellence in customer service,
- ❖ Recognizes employees who promote customer service in state government,
- ❖ Acknowledges employees who model excellence in customer service to other fellow State Employees,
- ❖ Exemplifies the standard "We all have a customer; we all provide service to others," and
- ❖ Recognizes employees who understand that "Providing customer service is part of our job."

For more information on this award, or to nominate someone, contact your COSE representative. All nominations must be received by September 30, 2005 to be eligible for the fourth quarters award. Nomination forms can be found on the web at www.state.nd.us/cose/ or from your COSE representa-

This newsletter is published three times a year by the North Dakota Council of State Employees (COSE). State employees are encouraged to submit articles or information about their agencies or institutions to their subgroup listed below. Any comments and concerns should also be directed to your subgroup chair listed below. Editorial Board: COSE Board of Directors. Publisher: Tina Freidt, 600 East Blvd. Ave, Bismarck, ND 58505

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